

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 282

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ruth Swann  
Goddard of Dandridge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Ruth Swann Goddard; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Goddard was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Washington State University in Pullman, Ruth Goddard also studied at the University of Washington in Seattle, Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Gonzaga University in Spokane and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Goddard served with great acumen and alacrity as the guidance counselor at Morristown-Hamblen East High School and as an English teacher at White Pine High School, earning the respect of her colleagues and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, from the age of 11, Ruth Goddard was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Dandridge, through which faith community she served her Lord faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, an extremely community-minded woman, Mrs. Goddard was involved with the Parent Teacher Association (even serving on the State Board), Dandridge Senior Citizens, Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, Goddard Association of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, United Methodist Women, Republican Women, Martha Dandridge Garden Club, Samuel Doak Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Delta Kappa Gamma; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Ruth Goddard ably served as the Editor of the *Dandridge Banner*, and

WHEREAS, a loving wife, mother and grandmother, Mrs. Goddard was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, though she has gone to be with her husband, Paul D. Goddard; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Swann; sons, William Henry Goddard and James Swann Goddard; brother, James Preston Goddard; and sister-in-law, Helen Goddard Carson and her husband, Judson. Ruth Goddard will be dearly missed by her children, Anne and David Jones, Caroline and Paul Douglas Goddard, Jr. and Elizabeth Mays Goddard DiGeorge; siblings, William Henry, Pat Swann, Hazel Swann, Margaret and Herman E. Goddard and Barbara Goddard; grandchildren, Leanne and Paul Douglas Goddard, III, Beth Goddard and Michael Dreher, Rachel Jones and Ashley Glenn, James Swann Goddard, II and Catherine and Ben Goddard; and several nieces, nephews and cousins; and

WHEREAS, in her last years, Mrs. Goddard was tenderly cared for by the compassionate staff of the Jefferson County Nursing Home; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ruth Swann Goddard leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mrs. Ruth Swann Goddard, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Goddard.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.